

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 RABAT 01031 241128Z

10

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 241041Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7796

S E C R E T RABAT 1031

NODIS

DEPARTMENT/NEA FOR ASST SECY ATHERTON

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SS, MO

SUBJECT: ATHERTON VISIT TO MOROCCO AND ALGERIA

REF: (A) SECTO 4128, (B) SECTO 4129

1. IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT REFTEL (A) EVENING FEB 23, I CONTACTED ACTING FONMIN MOHAMED BENHIMA, WHO AGREED TO RECEIVE ME FIRST THING IN MORNING TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF ATHERTON VISIT. DURING OUR MORNING SESSION, I PRESENTED DETAILED EXPLANATION OF PURPOSE OF VISIT PREVIOUSLY AS SET FORTH IN REFTELS. BENHIMA PROMISED TO CONTACT KING IN FEZ IMMEDIATELY AND TO BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH ME AS SOON AS KING'S DECISION KNOWN.

2. BENHIMA COMMENTED ON PERSONAL BASIS THAT WHATEVER THE OFFICIAL EXPLANATION FOR ATHERTON VISIT MIGHT BE, "ANY CHILD" WOULD DRAW CONCLUSION THAT ATHERTON UNDERTAKING MEDIATION EFFORT. HE ALSO EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT TIMING "EITHER TOO SOON OR TOO LATE," AND THAT NET RESULT OF VISIT MIGHT BE TO MAKE ALGERIANS MORE DIFFICULT FOR MOROCCANS TO DEAL WITH. BENHIMA AT SAME TIME STRESSED THAT HE APPRECIATED THE SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING ATHERTON TRAVEL. KING WOULD DECIDE, HE CONCLUDED.

3. FYI. MEANWHILE, ARAB LEAGUE SECY GEN MAHMOUD RIAD STILL

SECRET

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IN FEZ IN CONNECTION WITH MEDIATION EFFORT AS OF MORNING

FEB 24. KING TODAY WILL ALSO BE HEARING DETAILS OF MOSCOW  
VISIT OF PRIMIN OSMAN, WHO RETURNED EVENING FEB 23.  
NEUMANN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECRETARY.

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ITINERARY, CAT-A, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PLANNING MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976RABAT01031  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Reference:** 76 SECTO 4128, 76 SECTO 4129  
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**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
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**Secure:** LOCK1  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ATHERTON VISIT TO MOROCCO AND ALGERIA  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SS, MO, US, (ATHERTON, ALFRED L JR)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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